

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A printing apparatus ~~having~~ including a plurality of image forming sections that are removably attached to a body of the printing apparatus, each one of the image forming sections being capable of forming an image of a respective color independently from the other image forming sections; the printing apparatus ~~and form images of different colors;~~ comprising:

 a specifying unit that specifies an image forming section that performs printing;

 a control unit that controls the image forming section specified by said specifying unit to operate to form an image of a corresponding color.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended): ~~The printing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:~~

A printing apparatus having a plurality of image forming sections that are removably attached to a body of the printing apparatus and form images of different colors, comprising:

a specifying unit that specifies an image forming section that performs printing;

a control unit that controls the image forming section specified by said specifying unit to operate to form an image of a corresponding color; and

 a plurality of detectors that detect the presence and absence of corresponding image forming sections in the body;

 wherein when said detector detects that an image forming section not specified by said specifying unit is present, said control unit controls the detected image forming section to operate.

4. (original): The printing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when if print data contains a color corresponding to an image forming section not specified by said specifying unit, said control unit performs control in such a way that only print data for a color corresponding to the specified image forming section is processed in a format that can be printed.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended): A printing apparatus ~~having~~ including a plurality of image forming sections that are removably attached to a body of the printing apparatus, each one of the image forming sections being capable of forming an image of a respective color independently from the other image forming sections; ~~and form images of different colors;~~ the printing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of detectors that detect the presence and absence of corresponding image forming sections in the body; and

a control unit selectively controls the image forming sections to operate according to detection results of said plurality of detectors.

7. (original): The printing apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said control unit controls a detected image forming section to operate, and said control unit does not control a non-detected image forming section to operate.

8. (currently amended): ~~The printing apparatus according to Claim 7,~~

A printing apparatus having a plurality of image forming sections that are removably attached to a body of the printing apparatus and form images of different colors, the printing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of detectors that detect the presence and absence of corresponding image forming sections in the body; and

a control unit selectively controls the image forming sections to operate according to detection results of said plurality of detectors;

wherein said control unit controls a detected image forming section to operate, and said control unit does not control a non-detected image forming section to operate;

wherein if print data contains a color for a non-detected image forming section, said control unit does not process data for the color in a format that can be printed.

9. (new): A printing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of image forming sections that are removably attached to a body of the printing apparatus and form images on a medium one over the other in registration, each one of the image forming sections being capable of forming an image of a respective color independently from the other image forming sections;

a receiving section that receives image data;

a selecting section that selects at least one image forming section from among the plurality of image forming sections; and

a control section that controls the plurality of image forming sections in such a way that the at least one image forming section selected from among image forming sections attached to the body of the printing apparatus performs printing in accordance with the image data.

10. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 9, further comprising a detecting section that detects whether a corresponding image forming section is present in the printing apparatus;

wherein if the at least one image forming section selected by said selecting section is not present in the printing apparatus, said control section performs an error handling operation.

11. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said control section does not send the image data to a corresponding image forming section if said detecting section detects that the corresponding image forming section is not present in the printing apparatus.

12. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein each of the plurality of image forming sections having a corresponding transfer section, said transfer section receiving a transfer voltage irrespective of whether a corresponding image forming section is present in the printing apparatus.

13. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 12, further comprising a detecting section that detects whether a corresponding image forming section is present in the printing apparatus.

14. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein when said control section controls image forming sections selected by said selecting section from among image forming sections detected by said detecting section, thereby performing printing on the medium.

15. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 9, further comprising a display section that displays a message inquiring whether an image forming section currently displayed on said display section should be selected,

wherein said selecting section includes:

a first switch that selects an image forming section currently displayed on said display section, the first switch being operated by a user;

a second switch that switches the message on said display section from the image forming section currently displayed on said display section to a next image forming section, the second switch being operated by the user when the image forming section currently displayed on said display section should not be selected.

16. (new): A printing apparatus, comprising:

a plurality of image forming sections that are removably attached to a body of the printing apparatus and form images on a medium one over the other in registration, each one of the image forming sections being capable of forming an image of a respective color independently from the other image forming sections;

a receiving section that receives image data;

a detecting section that detects whether a corresponding image forming section is present in the printing apparatus; and

a control section that allows printing of image data only of a color corresponding to an image forming section detected by said detecting section.

17. (new): A printing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of image forming sections that are removably attached to a body of the printing apparatus and form images on a medium one over the other in registration, each one of the image forming sections being capable of forming an image of a respective color independently from the other image forming sections;

a receiving section that receives image data;

a detecting section that detects whether a corresponding image forming section is present in the printing apparatus; and

a control section that controls all of image forming sections detected by said detecting section to perform printing in accordance with the image data.

18. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein each of the image forming sections comprises a respective photoconductive drum.

19. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein each of the image forming sections comprises a respective photoconductive drum.

20. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein each of the image forming sections comprises a respective photoconductive drum.

21. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein each of the image forming sections comprises a respective photoconductive drum.

22. (new): The printing apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein each of the image forming sections comprises a respective photoconductive drum.